



Twin City Camera Club

ViewFinder

Member: Photographic Society of America
and The Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs

March 2018 Roll 82, Exposure 3

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Celebration of Life: Elaine Harju invites all club members to a Celebration of Life for her husband and TCCC club member Ralph from 2-5 p.m. March 18 at the Box Factory for the Arts. She said the camera club and friends Ralph made were an important part of their lives “It would mean so much to him and me.”

April competition: The Select topic for April is Below the Knee: The object that is the focus of attention must be something that is under 18 inches, for example flowers, cats, small dogs, tools, keyboard, mouse - alive or manmade, pots and pans, etc. Digital images are due April 2. Email to digital@twincitycameraclub.com. Prints can be turned on competition night, April 9.

Business Meeting report:

Here are the annual meeting highlights (with kudos to Sandy Hafer for keeping the minutes from which this is derived):

- Club president Ken McKeon told the group about a co-sponsorship with the Heritage Center to bring John Wagner for a “Meet the Artist” on June 14 to talk about his aerial photographs of lighthouses. The photographs will be on display from April through December at the Heritage Center.
- The 2017 financial report was prepared by Ted Post and presented by Gary Huttenstine. Ted prepared a comprehensive financial report showing the Twin City Camera Club's investments and expenses during 2017 and comparisons to prior years. It indicated that the club was financially sound and that the investment account was doing well.
- Tom McCall, TCCC webmaster, would like to convert the club website to “Word Press,” and asked if anyone was interested in taking over the website.
- It was agreed to discontinue the Yahoo group as we also have a Facebook group.
- We do need to train more backup volunteers to be scorekeepers, run scoring computer, run projection of digital images, etc.
- It was suggested that the TCCC bylaws be updated; the last revision was in 2002.
- Gary Huttenstine said we need to find someone for second vice president. The position would start in January 2019, with elections in October. Duties include: run competition night, get the judges (there is a list of 75 names with contact info), get an exhibition team, send out reminders to judges and send Thank You notes.
- Barb Kirby suggested a photo contest of “Country Living in Southwest, MI” sponsored by TCCC. Ideas to consider: shots from Memorial Day to Labor Day, prizes, file size,

how many entries per person, camera club judges, open to pictures of Berrien, Cass, Van Buren counties. More information to be presented at a future board meeting.

- Ron DeKett asked if the camera club could be used by members for shooting table top, portraits, etc. He was told that it is fine as long as it is not for commercial gain.

Select topics: Here's an early look at the 2019-20 Season Select Subjects recommended at the annual meeting and approved by the TCCC board:

- September: Close-up/Macro
- October: Animals
- November: Night photos
- December: Sunset & Sunrise
- January: Creative
- February: Color Green/B&W Architecture
- March: People at Work and Play
- April: Anything with wheels.
- May: Travel ways
- June: Nature



Portrait Photography

Confused about lighting for portraiture? Club member Dennis Hafer will conduct a special program on Portrait Photography at 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 19. He will clarify how to use light effectively to enhance the look of any portrait.

Discussion and demonstration will involve Camera and Lens considerations, Properties of Light, Lighting Equipment, Light Placement, and much more.

February POM: Congratulations go to Ron Bonczkowski whose photo, Patterns In Red, was selected by club members as the February Color Photo of the Month. Congratulations also go to Dennis Hafer and Tom McCall whose photographs tied for first place in the Black & White Photo of the Month. Dennis' photo was Theater Seating, and Tom's photo was Side Light. Thanks goes to all club members who voted. Your participation makes the winning photos extra special. To learn more about how the photos were taken and processed, visit the club website and click on the "Announcements" tab.

Ron Bonczkowski - Patterns In Red



© Ron Bonczkowski

Dennis Hafer - Theater Seating



© Dennis Hafer

Tom McCall - Side Light



© 2018 Tom McCall

Dark Skies: International Dark Sky Week is April 15-21 and will offer plenty of opportunities for stargazing and views of the night sky. Michigan's six Dark Sky Preserves will stay open late for self-guided viewing.

- Lake Hudson Recreation Area in Clayton, MI.
- Negwegon State Park, Harrisville, MI.
- Port Crescent State Park, Port Austin, MI.
- Rockport Recreation Area, Rogers City, MI.
- Thompson's Harbor State Park, Rogers City, MI.
- Wilderness State Park, Carp Lake, MI.
- The Headlands Dark Sky Park, an Emmet County park west of Mackinaw City, is the only internationally designated Dark Sky Park in the state and offers additional opportunity for viewing the night sky.

Call ahead for individual park hours. Learn more at michigan.gov/darksky.

Street photography: There's not a lot of outdoor public events in the next few weeks to attract a crowd for street photographers so you'll have to be creative. But here is one event to put on your calendar:

- Third annual St. Patrick's 5K Run/Walk at 9 a.m., Saturday, March 17, at Coloma Township Hall, 4919 Paw Lake Road. It's a fundraiser for Paws for a Cause and HOPE resources.

Program Night: Steve Campbell will present a program on "Water Drop Photography." Steve had this to say about his program: "Have you ever looked at those great water droplet or splash images and found yourself scratching your head wondering how did they do that? I will show you a few of my images then we will go to work. We will make images during the meeting and see what we get.



"I will go over some of the camera settings and demonstrate the basic setup. I will be using a mechanical water dropping device which should offer a higher success rate. Trust me, there are a lot of images that get deleted.

"Photographers are often excited to capture the crown. This is from a single water drop that explodes in a liquid.

"The holy grail of water drops is the double drop that collides in mid-air causing a unique shape that sometimes resembles a mushroom. The secret to getting a great crown or the double drop collision is timing and a lot of luck."

Important Note: Bring an empty SD card that is or can be Canon formatted and take home some of your own images that you will be able to take with Steve's camera and photography gear.

Thanks judges: Judges for the March competition were:

- Sherri Baun – Krasl Art Center, education director;
- Robin Maxon – Graphic Designer/Watercolor Artist, Box Factory, RobinMaxon.com;
- Ken Zimmerman – TCCC Life member.

Many thanks to all of them. We appreciate them taking the time to come and judge for us.

March POM: Selections are open for members to pick the March Photo of the Month. Pick the ones you think will best represent and promote TCCC for the visitors of the TCCC website. Select one color photo and one black & white photo and send your picks to POM@twincitycameraclub.com. Your vote counts. Thanks to all who participate. The deadline is midnight March 31.

Double-check entries: Please double-check your digital entries. We've received photos that were incorrectly sized and titled which makes lots of extra work for those handling the competition and could result in images being left out of competition. Competition rules are on

the club website at twincitycameraclub.com/Competition2.htm.

Digital entries must be in by midnight Monday, April 2. They must be sized 1024x1024 and not exceed 1 MB. A correctly title is as follows – your name (space) dash (space) image title. For example: John Henry – Steel Diving Man. Make sure you prepare an Entry Card or request one be made for you. Thank You!

Honors posted: The March Honors images are on the new Monthly Honors page for 2017-18 on the website.

Digital results posted: March Digital Results are posted in the Member's Only section.

Free photo software: Visit the club website for a link to free, photo editing software – Topaz Studio. If enough members download it and try it out, we will have a class on it. Dennis Hafer says it saves him about 50 percent in his post processing time.

Judges needed: Members are asked that if they know of active photographers who aren't in the club but who might like to be a judge to please forward their information to Gary@twincitycameraclub.com.

Visit the Website: Remember to visit the club website – twincitycameraclub.com – often. Tom McCall updates the site regularly, so don't miss the news and tips.

Good stuff, cheap (mostly): Looking to buy or sell camera equipment? Visit the club's Website at twincitycameraclub.com and click on the "classifieds" tab. Buyers will find good deals (haggling allowed), and sellers will find a captive audience.

Quotes of the Month:

- "A photographic portrait is a picture of someone who knows he is being photographed, and what he does with this knowledge is as much a part of the photograph as what he's wearing or how he looks." – Richard Avedon
- "Sensitive people faced with the prospect of a camera portrait put on a face they think is the one they would like to show to the world ... Every so often what lies behind the facade is rare and more wonderful than the subject knows or dares to believe." – Irving Penn

Competition results: Thanks goes to all those who prepared and submitted their competition entries. We had 14 members submitting 100 entries – 48 in Select, 52 in Open – that received 67 Acceptances, 32 Honors and 1 Reject. That's an acceptance/honor rate of 99 percent. Competitors receiving Honors were:

Class A Color Prints

- Gorson Drake - Kentucky Blue Bells

Class B Black & White Digital

- Sandy Hafer - Hanson Technology Center
- Sandy Hafer - Lace

Class B Color Digital

- Sandy Hafer - Festival Souvenirs
- Sandy Hafer - Summer Rose
- Sandy Hafer - Sunflowers

Class A Black & White Digital

- Dennis Hafer - 50% Shade
- Dennis Hafer - Charlotte Bluegrass Festival
- Jake Toering - Indian Dancer
- Jake Toering - Mountain man
- Jim Lynch - Buggy Parking
- Jim Lynch - Cemetery Entrance
- Jim Lynch - Late Shopping
- Ken McKeown - Potawatomi Harvest Time
- Ken McKeown - Race To Chicago
- Ken McKeown - Young Tribal Dancer
- Ron Bonczkowski - Chain Drive
- Ted Post - bug lighthouse
- Tom McCall - On the Midway

Class A Color Digital

- Barry Nelson - Library Courtyard Kowloon China
- Dennis Hafer - Clowning Around
- Dennis Hafer - Flame Thrower
- Dennis Hafer - Run For It
- Gary Huttenstine - Well Seasoned
- Jake Toering - Hummer
- Jake Toering - I'm Ready
- Ken McKeown - Clowns Abound
- Ron Bonczkowski - How's the Weather Up There
- Ron DeKett - Color Vibe Festival 2
- Ted Post - First in Line
- Tom McCall - Double Time
- Tom McCall - Time for a Spin

We exist to encourage and develop an interest in photography.

Keep those shutters clicking ...